

DUKE POWER COMPANY

ELECTRIC CENTER, BOX 33189, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

L. C. DAIL
VICE PRESIDENT,
DESIGN ENGINEERING

January 18, 1979

Mr. Steve A. Varga, Chief
Light Water Reactors, Branch 4
Division of Project Management
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Re: Cherokee Nuclear Station
Perkins Nuclear Station
Docket No's: STN 50-488, -489, -490, -491, -492, -493
Duke File: P81-1412.01

Dear Mr. Varga:

This letter is in response to the request made in your letter of January 11, 1979, that Duke Power Company provide a commitment not to foreclose specified design options on the Cherokee and Perkins Nuclear Stations. Because the specified options relate to design of both the nuclear steam supply system (NSSS) and the balance of plant, we have discussed your letter and our response with our NSSS supplier, Combustion Engineering. Duke Power Company shares the concerns and supports the recommendations stated in the Combustion Engineering letter dated January 12, 1979, to the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. Based upon our understanding of the three requirements in your letter, we submit the following:

- 1) The NSSS design for both the Cherokee and Perkins Nuclear Stations includes provision for the Supplementary Protection System (SPS) which is specified in Item 1, Option (a) of your letter.
- 2) The pressurizer design for all units includes sufficient nozzle capacity to allow installation of pressurizer safety valves to meet the requirements of Item 2 of your letter. It also appears that sufficient space can be reserved for installation of the valves and their discharge piping.
- 3) Nothing in our design will prevent a demonstration of the functionality of valves needed for long-term cooling as described in Item 3 of your letter.

Thus, the Perkins and Cherokee Stations will be designed and constructed such that implementation of the three potential requirements in your letter will not be foreclosed. However, it should be noted that the

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final, detailed requirements of the NRC are not known at this time and our commitment is based on our current understanding of NRC Staff requirements as outlined in your letter.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.

Very truly yours,

LC Dail by W.H. Owen

L. C. Dail

RFW/sr